

ly had the passengers alighted at Elkport when, from a special car, several dozen kegs of beer were unloaded. I learned they were to celebrate the Fourth in this town, and that here as in some parts of the east, beer was one of the special features of the program. It is as Brother Hansel remarked on our way from the train that the world forgets how much precious life-blood was spilt to gain our independence, which is now celebrated (?) in such an unholy manner. As Christians, do we not too regard our soul's freedom—salvation—too lightly? We forget how precious was the blood that was spilt that our sin-bound souls might be set at liberty. Ah, this sacrifice cost more than that which bought our country's freedom.

The work at the Elkport church I shall report next week as we have one more day in which to try to organize, but in this letter I want to mention Milledgeville and Lanark, the last two churches visited in Illinois. This is the only state, so far as I have traveled, that can boast of having an S. S. C. E. in each church, yet this does not mean a great number, as Illinois hasn't many churches.

I was at Milledgeville over Sunday, July 1st. They have a lively Sunday-school, a senior K. C. and a junior, and an S. S. C. E. that is at work. It was indeed a treat to me to visit a church with such a good number of strong members which always gives me a certain encouragement not gained elsewhere; yet it is always more inspiring to me to work in the smaller churches that are in greater need of help and encouragement. The Milledgeville offering for the S. S. C. E. was \$8 67 and four took pledges for the theological fund, as many more will have their pledges ready soon. A few of the brethren also are taking the endowment pledges. With Mrs. Lizzie Fike as their president, I think we may expect the Milledgeville S. S. C. E. to furnish one of the rooms in the Boarding Hall at Ashland College. Next to their room, we should like to see the name of the Lanark S. S. C. E.

On Monday morning Brother and Sister Teeter took me to Lanark. The afternoon and night were rainy, but on Tuesday the sisters met in an afternoon meeting. The meeting at night was only small, but with Brethren Livengood and Furry present, it did not lack interest. On Sunday Brother Furry began his work here for the summer. Before closing our services, he talked for a few minutes very forcibly on the importance of supporting the Bible department at Ashland College. As a result I can report eleven pledges to this fund, with what were taken at the afternoon meeting. The collection amounted to \$2 35. They succeeded also to get new names among the brethren as members of their society. They have a faithful, earnest leader in Mrs. Ella Lichty and they meet every week in a work meeting.

Until July 20th, send letters to North English, Iowa Co., Iowa.

VIANNA DETWILER.

East Elkport, Iowa, July 6th.

#### C. E. Notes From Bethlehem, Va.

As we have had no full report from our C. E. Society for quite a while I will endeavor to give our readers a brief sketch of what we are doing. At our last reorganization the following officers were reelected: Miss Jennie Hall, president; Mrs. Catharine Hall, vice president; Miss Lucie Snell, secretary; Mrs. Frances Hall, treasurer. We have five different committees, namely, lookout, music, missionary, social and temperance committees. These committees each have their work to fill and report each month. We have one public meeting each month and one or two business meetings and also meet the children for the purpose of training them in music and also literature. New members are continually coming in our society, and hope they will be good workers, as we say with the Rev. Talmage, "We would rather have six good working members than 1000 drones." A call meeting was appointed for last Wednesday night for the purpose of suggesting how the society could help the starving in India. Quite a number were present at this meeting and good work was accomplished. We think we can send them at least \$20. The church here with its pastor J. I. Hall has sent them a nice little sum. We do all we can financially as well as spiritually to help build up the cause. We make comforters, chair tidies, head rests, sofa pillows and all things that we have orders for. We also hold ice cream suppers. Never has the society known as busy a time. We have had almost more orders than we can fill at present owing to the busy time of the year. Our society would be much pleased for the president of the Sisters' Society to visit us even if we have reorganized as C. E. We will give her a hearty welcome when she can conveniently call. Asking the prayers of all God's children for the spiritual growth of the church at Bethlehem I am your sister in faith.

JENNIE S. HALL.

#### Waterloo S. S. C. E.

As our president so often asks for contributions from the different societies, I will give a few items from the Waterloo society. This is a separate organization from the Enon society. It was organized in 1893 with Mrs. S. J. Harrison president. Altho we are not often heard from we still exist. Our present officers are Mrs. D. Harrison president, Mrs. S. Lichty vice president, and Miss Cora Snyder secretary and treasurer. We have devotional meeting the first Wednesday in each month and meet to work each week when we have work. We quilt, make comforts, sew rags, do sewing and serve meals and often make articles for sale. Some pay monthly dues.

At present we are having a feast of good things. Brother Talley dropped in on us and made a short visit. Brother and Sister Livengood from Lanark are visiting among us. Also another brother and sister from the same place, cannot recall the name. But best of all we have our President of the S. S. C. E. with us. On last Sunday she

spoke at Enon morning and evening. Monday afternoon she was with us in our devotional meeting and gave us many good thoughts. Tuesday afternoon at the home of Brother Elias Bickly, the Enon society entertained the Hudson and Waterloo societies in honor of Sister Detwiler. With the company seated on the lawn Sister Detwiler stood on the porch and conducted a short service in which she urged the societies to pull a little more along the national line of work. After a social time supper was served on the lawn and the Enon sisters did that part of the program all right. After supper Sister Livengood took a picture of each society. Altogether we had a very nice and I trust a very profitable time, one that will be long remembered.

Sister Detwiler was so full of zeal for the work one could not help catching the spirit. I hope we may all go to work with renewed energy and thus encourage our sister in the work.

CORA SNYDER, Sec.

## Our Young People

### Impressions

The touch of a hand, the glance of an eye,  
Or a word exchanged with a passer by,  
A glimpse of a face in a crowded street,  
And afterward life is incomplete;  
A picture painted with honest zeal,  
And we lose the old for the new ideal;  
A chance remark, or a song's refrain,  
And life is never the same again.

An angered word from our lips is sped,  
Or a tender word is left unsaid,  
And one there is who, his whole life long  
Shall cherish the brand of a burning wrong;  
A line that stares up from an open page,  
A cynic smile from the lips of age,  
A glimpse of loving seen in a play,  
And the dreams of our youth are swept away.

A friendly smile, and love's embering spark  
Leaps into flame and illumines the dark;  
A whispered "Be brave," to our fellow men,  
And they pick up the thread of hope again.  
Thus never an act or word, or thought,  
But that with unguessed importance is fraught;  
For small things build up eternity,  
And blazon the ways for a destiny,

—Philadelphia Times.

### CUMBERERS OF THE GROUND—Luke 13 : 6-9

Topic, July 29

Every farmer is familiar with specimens of plants or vines or trees which fail to bear fruit and only cumber the ground, preventing others. Analogous to these is the drone among bees and the idle class, whether the tramp or high society, among men.

The farmer soon cuts off the unfruitful branch; the working bees kill off the drones, but the good-for-nothing class among men is allowed rather to kill off itself if it persists in being good-for-nothing. The law of the "survival of the fittest" holds universally but it is supplemented by the Christian principle of making all fit to survive.

The flower is not independent of the roots, nor is the top of civilization independent of the bottom. Nor yet are the faithful of the church able to scorn the tossed-about weaklings on the outer edges. It is for them that the church with its warm fold and spiritual food exists. Only after they have persistently refused to the end its ample help are they to be abandoned to their fate. The lesson before us both warns us to be fruitful and teaches us our duty toward the unfruitful.